



Under Your
CAP



Volume II, Issue 1

Newsletter For The Des Moines Composite Squadron

June 2006

DSMCS Tours 132d Fighter Wing

Tuesday, June 7, 2006 the Des Moines Composite Squadron had the opportunity to take a tour of the Iowa Air National Guard 132d Fighter Wing. The 132d is based out of the Des Moines International Airport, with a company of over 900 enlisted personnel and 116 officers.

Major Jeff Bulman of the 132d and Major Greg Chase, CAP - Air Force Liaison, led the tour.

The tour began with a walkthrough of the operations center, including the weather monitoring station and the briefing rooms. The tour of the facilities ended in the pilot staging area, where the fighter pilots' equipment is stored when not in use.

After donning hearing protection, the tour continued out onto the ramp to watch a portion of the preflight procedures used by the 132d to ensure a safe flight.

The Squadron then boarded a Guard vehicle and moved to an area near the start of the active runway, where a flight of F-16s departed in impressive fashion. The Squadron quickly



relocated near the end of runway, to witness a second flight depart directly overhead.

The tour concluded with an up-close look at an F-16 (pictured above) and a discussion of some of the many features that make this incredible aircraft one of the most effective combat fighters in the world.

Tune In Tony

Submitted By

1st Lt Tony Crandell

As I got closer to the truck ahead of me...I could start to read the bumper sticker.

The sticker said ” *It ain’t dead till it’s grounded*”. My first thought was “huh??... Then I realized I was following an electrical utility company pickup. As I drove along I thought that a reordering of that wording would make a good bumper sticker for a hearse: “*if it ain’t grounded...you’re dead!!!*”



The invention of the AC-DC radio in the fifties and the transistor radio in the sixties has become a real nemesis for communications safety officers. Prior to that time **every** radio installation had three connections: power, antenna, and **ground**. Good radio reception depended on **all** three. But because the chassis in an AC-DC radio was “hot” with 110volts of electricity, manufacturers started leaving the ground lugs off production radios... transistor radios are battery operated and meant to be very portable; therefore no ground connection is present.

In our CAP communications environment, not only are we required to establish a ground for lightning and transient voltage protection, but also the grounding of our radio helps establish a counterpoise for our antennas. When radios are grounded, they just work better! Static is a form of transient voltage and is bled off to ground when our radio is grounded.

In my work, I have seen large arcs of electricity traveling down the **outside** of the antenna feed line due to “near lightning strikes” in the vicinity. I can only imagine what would happen if I was standing near or touching a ungrounded CAP radio if it would receive a direct lightning hit on the antenna.

CAP regulations mandate us to ground **all** of our radios systems for safety!!! But aside from that, it just makes our radios work better!!!

No one likes to install or recover the ground rod...it’s just too much work... however, it’s the law!!! and you’ll be rewarded with better reception for all of your hard work.

Plan Ahead...

June

24-25 *Drill Weekend—Camp Dodge*
SLS
CLC
Glider Training
Glider O-Flights
G1000 Training

July

8 *Air Force Supervised Exercise*
Davenport, IA

Contact Maj Doug Jansen
do@iawg.cap.gov

8 *Counter Drug Program Exercise
and Evaluation*
Davenport, IA

Contact Capt Ken Myers
doc@iawg.cap.gov

22-23 *Drill Weekend—Camp Dodge*
ES Academy Part 1

Classroom Training for Aircrew,
Ground Team, and Mission Base
Staff

August

26-27 *Drill Weekend—Camp Dodge*
ES Academy Part 2

Operational Training for
Aircrew, Ground Team, and
Mission Base Staff

Know an event that should be listed?
Send it to dwood@iawg.cap.gov .

OPSEC?

CAP's relationship with Homeland Security is growing, we are having to deal more sensitive information than ever before.

To help cement our relationship and ease concerns over the availability of this information, CAP is now mandating Operations Security (OPSEC) training for all senior members. Additionally, effective October 1, OPSEC training will be added to the Level 1 training requirements.

The training itself consists of 25 slides and an optional 4 minute video. With the video the training will only take 10-15 minutes.

Currently the training must be completed online at:

<https://tests.cap.af.mil/opsec>

Successful completion is entered into the National Database and will appear in eServices.

This training will help show Homeland Security that CAP is ready to handle sensitive information, and better prepare us for the missions of tomorrow.

Assignment to sensitive missions will be dependent on OPSEC completion, so don't delay! Complete OPSEC today!

Ideas Wanted!

Do you have an idea for an article? Have you taken an interesting photo? Do you have news to share?

Send your submissions to:

dwood@iawg.cap.gov

Let everyone know what's Under Your CAP!